



The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senate
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

September 7, 2017

Dear Senator Shaheen:

Thank you for sending your Senior Defense Policy Advisor, Bryan Maxwell, to visit Newport News Shipbuilding during the August Congressional Recess.

As a proud supplier for U.S. Navy aircraft carrier construction and maintenance, I am delighted that Bryan had the opportunity to tour the shipyard and discuss the aircraft carrier construction and maintenance program.

As a follow up to this visit, and on behalf of the state's aircraft carrier industrial base, I urge you to support a multi-ship procurement strategy for the construction of the next generation of U.S. Navy *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carriers. Toward that end, my company requests an additional \$520 million in Advance Procurement for the Carrier Replacement Program in the fiscal year 2018 authorization and appropriations process. We are concerned with the House of Representatives' version of the defense appropriations bill, which did not include language for the multi-ship buy for aircraft carriers.

In total, 11 companies in New Hampshire have received over \$5.2 million in the past five years for work relating to the aircraft carriers. These companies supply rubber products, ladders, cables, pipefittings and many other materials for the program.

A multi-ship purchase approach for the U.S. Navy's aircraft carrier fleet will save American taxpayers more than \$1.5 billion, approximately \$500 million per ship.

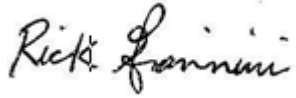
To meet the dual objectives to lower the cost of carrier construction and increase the size of the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier fleet, a multi-ship approach maximizes the material procurement savings benefit through economic order quantities (EOQ) procurement and provides labor efficiencies. Building aircraft carriers at an economically-optimal rate not only meets these two objectives it also supports thousands of jobs in New Hampshire and across the country.

This skilled workforce of men and women from New Hampshire and your community would greatly benefit from the accelerated build rate. A multi-ship purchase will send a clear signal to these companies: to invest in new equipment and technology, acquire raw materials in economic quantities, and hire more and train skilled workers.

New Hampshire's industrial base is committed to building U.S. Navy aircraft carriers at the lowest cost with the greatest efficiency. This is exactly what the multi-ship purchase approach does. It leverages potential efficiencies in the aircraft carrier industrial base to reduce construction costs on future *Ford*-class carriers, a critical objective given the fiscally constrained shipbuilding budget.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to watching your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Rick Giannini in black ink.

Rick Giannini
Chair, ACIBC
President and CEO
Milwaukee Valve Company

Handwritten signature of Darrell Grow in black ink.

Darrell Grow
Vice-Chair, ACIBC
Chief Operating Officer
Ammcon Corporation